

Feb 5. 1903.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Report from Jan. 1st to the end of the year 1902, prepared according to the suggestions of the County Council.

AREA. The district comprises 93.098 acres.

POPULATION. The population according to the Census of 1891 was 11799, and estimated to the middle of 1902 was 10530 shewing a decrease from last year.

BIRTH-RATE There were 224 births registered during the year, giving a birth-rate of 21.1 per 1,000, compared with 25.3 per 1,000 in 1901.

DEATH-RATE. There were 144 deaths registered including 7 which occurred in the Workhouse, giving a death-rate of 13.6. Of these 70 were over the age of 65.

ZYMOTIC. One death occurred from Zymotic Disease.

INFANT MORTALITY. There were 16 deaths in Infants under 1 year, the same as in the last three years, giving a death-rate of 59 per 1,000 births registered.

GENERAL. 13 deaths were due to Phthisis, 19 to Bronchitis, 7 to Pneumonia, 23 to Heart Disease and 8 to Malignant Disease.

To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the WAREHAM URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your perusal my Report on the health and sanitary condition of the Borough of Wareham for the year ending Dec. 31, 1902.

AREA. The District comprises 251 acres.

POPULATION. According to the Census of 1891 was 2141, and estimated to the middle of 1902 was 2000.

DEATH RATE. There have been 46 deaths, including 19 at the Workhouse of which 7 were non-residents, giving a death-rate of 19.5 per 1000 which is, I am sorry to say, considerably higher than in former years. 13 deaths occurred over the age of 60.

BIRTH RATE. There were 46 births, giving a birth-rate of 23 per 1000.

ZYMOTIC DISEASE. No death has occurred from Zymotic Disease.

INFANT MORTALITY. There have been 8 deaths from this cause during the year

PREVALENCE OF DISEASE. I am sorry to report 4 cases of Small-pox which occurred at the Workhouse and were imported by a tramp. They were immediately isolated and everything requisite was done to prevent the spread of the disease. None of the cases proved fatal.

One case of Stomach poisoning occurred in the town which was contracted in the Isle of Wight from eating a pork pie, but the patient I am glad to state recovered.

WATER SUPPLY. A good supply of water has been obtained and directions are awaited from the Local Government Board with regard to its being carried into the town.

SEWAGE and DRAINAGE. There is no regular system of drainage. Vault privies are converted to the Earth System as opportunities occur. I still think, and strongly advise, more flushing should be done the gutters especially on Sunday mornings being in a most insanitary and filthy state.

SLAUGHTER-, BAKE-, and LODGING-HOUSES. All these are in a fairly satisfactory state.

I have made a systematic inspection of the Borough and have made special visits when required to do so.

Appended hereto is a summary of the Sanitary work and the usual tables.

I have the honour to be

Yours obediently

Kilmer J. Courtney
Medical Officer of Health

26/2/03

NOTIFICATION. I have received only 24 Certificates under the Notification of Diseases Act, a reduction of 6 on the previous year.

Of these,

9	were	due	to	Diphtheria
6	-	-	-	Scarlet Fever
6	-	-	-	Erysipelas
2	-	-	-	Small Pox
1	was	-	-	Enteric Fever

The nine cases of Diphtheria were spread over the district. Of the cases of Scarlet Fever 4 occurred in the Swanage district and 2 in the Bere Regis district. The two cases of Small Pox occurred at Studland and were probably contracted at the Wareham Workhouse, which one of the patients had visited. On receiving Notification vans were procured as speedily as possible and the patients isolated on Studland Heath and afterwards removed to the Isolation Hospital which was erected on the outbreak of Small Pox in the district. The Isolation Hospital is well situated, standing back some distance from the Corfe Road and is easily accessible.

One fatal case of Enteric Fever occurred at ^{night} ~~Kingston~~ which was an imported case.

WATER SUPPLY. I am pleased to say that the water at Tadnoll Dairy and

Mill is now most satisfactory.

In other parts of the district the supply is now fairly satisfactory.

SEWAGE & DRAINAGE. There is no regular system of drainage in any part of the district but improvements are being made whenever possible. The

Vault Privies are being converted to the Earth System as opportunities occur.

COTTAGE ACCOMODATION. An improvement in this matter is still to be desired.

SLAUGHTER-, BAKE-, COW-HOUSES & DAIRIES. All these are in a fairly satisfactory state. The dairy yard at Affpuddle is in an unsatisfactory state for the lack of proper drainage.

GENERAL.

I have made a systematic inspection of the district with the Sanitary Inspector and have made special visits to inquire into the outbreaks of infectious disease and to advise measures for its control. The number of infectious cases has again decreased. Appended hereto is a summary of the Sanitary work done, and the usual tables for the whole year.

I have the honour to be

Yours obediently

William J. Carter
Medical Officer of Health.

